

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CU-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OPR-02 SCCT-01 SY-05

USSS-00 OC-05 CCO-00 A-01 AID-05 SCS-03 SCA-01 MC-02

/091 W

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R 291432Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4283

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USCINCEUR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS PINT EAID SOCI SEDU SOPN SHUM

SUBJECT: STUDENT DISTURBANCES

1. SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS AT VARIOUS ADDIS SCHOOLS, INCLUDING TEFERI MAKONNEN NEXT DOOR TO EMBASSY, BEYENE MERID NEAR RAS HOTEL, AFRICAN UNITY IN MENELIK SQUARE AREA AND ETEGUE MENNEN AT SIDIST KILO, WENT OUT ON STRIKE APRIL 29. STRIKE ACUALLY CALLED FOR YESTERDAY BUT DATE SLIPPED, PRESUMABLY DUE PROBLEMS OF ORGANIZATION. STUDENTS HIT STREET AND STONED CARS, INCLUDING THOSE OF SEVERAL EMBOFFS AND ETHIOPIAN LOCAL EMPLOYEES. NO ONE WAS HURT AND DAMAGE SMALL. ONCE AGAIN, POLICE NOTABLE FOR THEIR ABSENCE IN EARLY STAGES OF DISTURBANCE. VARIOUS SOURCES REPORT THAT STRIKE CALLED TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROTEST EPMG/PMAC'S AUTHORITARIANISM, INCLUDING ITS LIMITATIONS

OF FREEDOMS OF ASSEMBLY, SPEECH AND PRESS; ITS PROHIBITION OF DEMONSTRATIONS; OPPOSITION TO DEMOCRATIC PRACTICES; DETENTION OF ZAMETCHOCH. STUDENTS VOCAL IN THEIR OPPOSITION TO CURRENT PMAC ATTEMPTS PROPAGANDIZE RURAL POPULATIONS IN FAVOR OF ITS BRAND OF AUTHORITARIANISM AND ALSO CASTIGATED US FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THIS EPMG. STUDENTS DEMANDED FORMATION OF CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT AND PROMISED MAJOR ANTI-DIRG DEMONSTRATIONS ON MAY DAY.

2. SOME FIRING IN ADDIS (AREA NORTH OF ARAT KILO) WAS REPORTED NIGHT OF APRIL 28-29. ACCORDING TO ETHIOPIAN MOFA SOURCE, IT PART OF INCIDENT BETWEEN POLICE AND STUDENTS IN WHICH FOUR ZAMETCHOCH KILLED. SOURCE REPORTS HE WAS DETAINED AT ROADBLOCK IN THAT AREA AND TAKEN TO POLICE STATION WHERE HE HAD TO WAIT TWO HOURS TO HAVE HIS IDENTITY CHECKED. EMBASSY THEREFORE INCLINED TO VIEW THAT AUTHORITIES HAVE LIKELY BEEN ANTICIPATING STUDENT TROUBLE.

3. WE HAVE REPORTS OF CURRENT PROBLEMS IN JIMMA AREA INVOLVING STUDENTS AND ZAMETCHOCH (CF ADDIS 4774). ACCORDING SOURCE BELIEVED RELIABLE IN JIMMA, 12 FARMERS IN NEAR BY VILLAGE CALLED SEKA ARE SAID TO HAVE BEEN KILLED BY MILITARY APRIL 28 BECAUSE "ZAMETCHOCH STIRRED THEM UP". TEN FARMERS SAID HAVE DIED IN YEDU IN SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES. IN JIMMA ITSELF OUR SOURCES REPORT THAT "MANY STUDENTS, INCLUDING MANY ZAMETCHOCH" WERE ARRESTED TODAY BECAUSE AUTHORITIES FELT THAT STUDENTS AND ZAMETCHOCH ABOUT TO ATTEMPT FULL-SCALE TAKEOVER OF CITY.

4. WE UNDERSTAND THAT STUDENTS ARE ALSO DEMONSTRATING IN HARRA, ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NO INDICATION OF SPECIAL PROBLEMS THERE. IN DIRE DAWA STUDENTS ARE REPORTED TO BE PRESENTING MIX OF LOCAL DEMANDS (E.G. FOR BETTER FACILITIES) AND NATIONAL DEMANDS OF SAME TYPE AS THOSE BEING VOICED IN ADDIS. WE HEAR THEY HAVE NOT BEEN TO CLASSES FOR THREE DAYS.  
HUMMEL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS, CIVIL DISORDERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 29 APR 1975  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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